



# Clermont County On The Move

a newsletter for citizens

April 2005

Commissioners: Bob Proud, Mary Walker, and Scott Croswell

## April is Child Abuse Prevention Month *It Takes a Community to Protect a Child*

A case of child abuse is reported in America, every ten seconds. In Clermont County, abuse cases are increasing. With those facts in mind, the Board of Clermont County Commissioners is declaring April as Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month.

"In 2004, Children's Protective Services (CPS) took 330 children into custody," said CPS Deputy

Director Anne Arbaugh. "This year, it appears the numbers could go even higher."

The mission of CPS is to protect the abused, neglected, and dependent children of Clermont County, and promote their well-being. The agency strives to do this while preserving families, when possible. CPS adheres to the philosophy that bureaucratic intervention is warranted only when children are found to be at risk.



"Sadly, the number of

children removed from drug addicted parents is increasing," said Arbaugh. "Last year, we had 20 newborn babies that tested positive for drugs and had to be taken into custody at the hospital. We are also continuing to remove a large number of children from homes where methamphetamine labs are present."



To promote efforts to combat child abuse, during April CPS will place posters and baskets containing blue ribbons in local churches, schools, community buildings, and businesses. Wearing a blue ribbon on your collar shows your support of efforts to protect children in this community.

CPS needs your help in finding qualified foster parents willing to house and love the children taken into custody, until they can be reunified with their parents or placed for adoption. For

more information on becoming a foster parent, please call 732-7173.



If you suspect a child is being abused, please pick up the phone and call CPS at 732-STOP. You will remain anonymous.

"When it comes to fighting child abuse, I think we are doing a pretty good job," said Arbaugh. "We can do better."

### Why a blue ribbon?



This movement began in the spring of 1989, when a concerned grandmother, Bonnie Finney, of Norfolk, Va., took a stand against child abuse after the death of her grandson. She tied a symbolic blue ribbon to her van as a signal to her community of her personal commitment to involve everyone in the battle to stop child abuse. The spirit of her blue ribbon grew, and it has inspired a nationwide effort to join forces in this tragic battle.

## Low Cost Rabies Shot Clinic

By: Joshua Lane, General Health District

The Clermont County General Health District will hold a rabies shot clinic on Saturday, April 16, 2005, between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. at The Leming House/Community Park on Buckwheat Rd, in Milford.



The fee for vaccination will be \$5, payable in cash only. All dogs must be leashed and all cats must be contained in a carrier.

A three year vaccination will be administered to all animals for which proper documentation of current vaccination status is provided. All others will receive a one year vaccine. A rabies tag alone will not be sufficient documentation.



## Time to Move a Measured Mile

By: Donna Hart, General Health District

The Clermont County General Health District is sponsoring the annual "Move a Measured Mile" program from April 1, through May 31, 2005. Last year, there were 179 participants, and this year, we are expecting 200 to take part!

The theme for this year's program is "achievement- unless you try to do something beyond what you have already mastered, you will never grow."

This is a program that everyone enjoys; it does not require special equipment (just your feet) and is a lot of fun! Encourage your fellow employees to join you in some healthy competition.

A variety of prizes will be awarded to winning departments and individuals. Winners will be announced at the June 8, 2005 meeting of the Board of Health.



**The Clermont County Fair will be held at the fairgrounds in Owensville from July 24-30, 2005.**

## Shopping Trip Results in Lifesaving Mission

By: Lynda Ellis, Clermont Jail

A shopping trip to the Eastgate Kroger store turned into a lifesaving mission for Yvonne Wallace, a licensed practical nurse at the Clermont County Jail, who is also a CPR instructor. Many times in her classes, Yvonne has said "Imagine if you were shopping at Kroger and someone collapsed," this time it actually happened.

On Friday, March 18, 2005, Wallace was in the check-out line at Kroger, when she heard someone say an employee had fainted. She told the check-out clerk that she was a nurse and could help, if needed. She then heard someone say, "call 911." Wallace immediately rushed to the employee, who was unconscious on the floor. The woman had a good pulse, but ineffective respiration.

Wallace began rescue breathing for her, and maintained her breathing until the Union Township Life Squad arrived. The patient was taken to Clermont Mercy and later transferred to University, where she remains hospitalized.

We're sure that the employee and her family are grateful that Yvonne Watson was at the store shopping that day.



### April Commissioner Sessions

Tuesday, April 5	1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 6	1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 12	1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 13	1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 19	1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 20	1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 26	1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 27	1:00 p.m.

*All regular sessions are held in the third floor session room of the Clermont County Administration Building, 101 East Main Street in Batavia, Ohio. For agenda information, contact the BCC offices at (513) 732-7300.*



## Clermont Park Events

By: Keith Robinson, naturalist

### Spring Wildflower Walks

**Sunday, April 10, 2:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday, April 13, 6:30 p.m.**

**Saturday, April 30, 10:00 a.m.**

#### Sycamore Park

*Sycamore Park is alive with color each spring. Dutchman's Breeches, Sessile Trillium, Trout Lilies, and Virginia Bluebells are just a few of the flowers that will bloom along the wooded walking trail at Sycamore Park. Because each species of flower blooms at a certain time, each week is sure to have a different flower showing off its colors. Meet at the information kiosk.*



### East Fork River Sweep

**Saturday, April 16, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

**Various locations along the East Fork, including**

#### Sycamore Park

*Be one of many volunteers to help clean up the East Fork of the Little Miami River. Participants will canoe down the river while picking up trash from the river and its banks. Pre-registration is required and a waiver must be signed before participating. Call 734-4323 to sign up.*

### Sneak Peek Hike

**Sunday, April 17**

**Sycamore Park, 2:00 p.m.**

*Join the naturalist for a sneak peek at the Park District's newest property before it opens to the public. The trails will be alive with color as many spring wildflowers will be in full bloom. The hike will have moderate hills and somewhat strenuous stream crossings. Registration is required. To sign up please call 513-876-9013.*



### Buds, Blooms and Birds

**Thursday, April 21**

**Pattison Park, 6:00 p.m.**

*Explore the trails of Pattison Park in search of spring. New leaves will be bursting from their buds, flowers will be in full bloom, and many birds will be singing their beautiful spring songs. Meet at the information kiosk.*

### Earth Day Hike

**Saturday, April 23**

**Kelley Nature Preserve, 10:00 a.m.**

*Earth Day is everyday but the official Earth Day is celebrated this week. Come mark the day with us by taking a hike through Kelley Nature Preserve. We'll be looking for birds and blooms and exploring the Little Miami River's edge. Meet at the information kiosk.*



## Spring Clean up Reminder

In a continuing effort to improve the environment and provide a safer and cleaner quality of life in Clermont County, the Clermont 20/20 Clean and Green

Collaborative has an ambitious goal of recruiting at least 700

volunteers for this spring's major litter pick up and clean up effort set for Saturday, April 23, 2005. Last year, over 600 volunteers helped create a cleaner community, collecting over 1,037 bags of litter.



Citizens, organizations, and businesses who would like to help protect Clermont County's environment by volunteering time and/or resources, are asked to call Julie Toren, Clermont 20/20 Clean and Green coordinator, at 753-9222, or contact her by email at [www.cleanandgreen@clermont2020.org](mailto:www.cleanandgreen@clermont2020.org).

### Have Room for Us?



**Clermont Animal Shelter**  
**732-8854**

## Salamanders Signal Spring

Clermont County Parks Naturalist, Keith Robinson, and his friend (pictured at right) spend some quality time together at the Crooked Run Nature Preserve.

The salamander (four species can be found locally) emerges each year after the first warm, rainy evening of the year.



## Clermont Library Events

By: Tammy Craig, Clermont Library

### Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse

Saturday, April 16, 2:00 p.m.

Amelia Branch Library

*Stories, crafts, and a special visit with Lilly from Kevin Henke's book. Call to register, at 752-5580.*

### Elementary Art Show

Wednesday, April 20, 7:00 p.m.

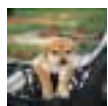
Amelia Branch Library

*The awards reception will be for parents, students, and teachers of local elementary schools who participated in an art competition for grades k-through-six. The Clermont County Art Guild judged the students artwork which will be on display from April 11 -30.*

### Puppy Party

Thursday, April 14, 7:00 p.m.

Bethel Branch Library



*Make puppy dog ears, crawl through the dog house to play games, and hear some doggone good tales. For more information, or to register for the program, call the library at 734-2619.*

### Death by Chocolate

Monday, April 18, 7:00 p.m.

Goshen Branch Library

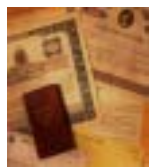
*Teens and adults are invited for chocolate trivia, chocolate in literature, recipes, and tasting. For more information or to register for the program, call the library at 722-1221.*



### Getting the Most Out of Your Savings Bonds

Wednesday, April 13, 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Milford-Miami Township Branch Library



*Financial advisor Roger Radcliffe will discuss what interest rates your bonds are earning and what changes are forthcoming in the savings bonds program. Learn how to receive a free personalized Savings Bond statement for each bond you own. For more information or to register for the program, call the library at 248-0700.*

### Jumanji Games

Saturday, April 16, 2:00 p.m.

Owensville Branch Library

*Kids, ages 7 and up, are invited to discover the magical world of the rainforest through the game. Listen, play, and be ready for a surprise. For more information or to register for the program, call the library at 732-6084.*

## Grassy Run Heritage Rendezvous

Explore Clermont County's rich history with a visit to the Grassy Run Heritage Rendezvous the weekend of April 29, in Williamsburg.

The educational journey begins with a 1700's encampment, as visitors



enjoy strolling musicians, Native American dancers, and storytellers. Explore the many old-time exhibits, featuring gun smithing, blacksmithing, spinner weavers, and broom makers.

A children's area will be available where youngsters can make candles, beaded necklaces, and pioneer toys for free. For additional information, call 734-1119.

Watch Clermont County Government Television for an event preview in April. In May, watch for highlights of the event.

***Pictured above: Ron Shouse and Rick Crawford in period costume.***

## Is Your Community a Safe Community?

By: Martha Enriquez, General Health District

The Clermont County General Health District is now coordinating the Safe Communities program. Safe Communities is funded under the Ohio Department of Public Safety and is working to reduce traffic fatalities through education, enforcement, and engineering. The Safe Communities coalition is made up of many agencies and groups interested in traffic safety. This is the local entity that assists in promoting statewide campaigns like "Click It or Ticket", "You Drink, You Drive, You Loose", and "What's Holding You Back? Buckle Up!" A display board will soon be available to use at events and all public building with facts about driving risks and Clermont County crash facts. Safe Communities targets teen drivers, older drivers, and community groups with an educational presentation.



In 2004, there were 25 fatalities on Clermont County roadways. An estimated 37 percent of these fatalities involved unsafe speed, and 27 percent involved a failure to yield. Almost half (47 percent) of those killed, were not wearing a seat belt. Alcohol was a factor in 36 percent of these fatalities.

Safe Communities is working to educate the public about these facts and encourage safer driving behaviors. Please wear a seat belt and insist that those who travel with you buckle up. It's the easiest thing you can do to protect yourself, your family, and friends. Beg, plead, even get mad, do whatever it takes to change the deadly bad habit of not buckling up every trip, every time.

For more information, contact Martha Enriquez at 735-8409. And remember – slow down and buckle up!



## March Madness at Wildey School

By: Lisa Davis, MRDD

March Madness basketball erupted on March 11, as the Clermont County Sheriff's Office squared off against the MRDD Wildey School Comets at the Thomas A. Wildey Center in Owensville. Both teams were ready for action, but the Comets edged out a victory with a final score of 53 to 46.

Highlights of the game included great plays by some returning members of the Sheriff's All Stars, including Russell Kenney and Josiah Meyers, with incredible shots made by Wildey teammates Eric Plowman and Desziray Woessner. Team coaches were Sheriff A.J. (Tim) Rodenberg and Debbie Goodman (MRDD).



A March Madness Poster Contest was judged prior to the game by refs David Sininger (MRDD) and Chris Mehlman

(Clermont County Auditor's Office), and by Coach Rodenberg. Special guests were Kathy Lehr, Jeff Pulliam, and Bobbi Padgett, who videotaped the game to air on cable access stations in Clermont County.

A world of thanks goes out to all who made this game possible! Although it is something MRDD has enjoyed hosting for several years, it is easy to get caught in the net of excitement each year. Without the support of Sheriff Rodenberg's team, the Wildey Comets would never have the opportunity to experience such great sportsmanship and fun at the same time!



*On the Move* is a service of the Board of Clermont County Commissioners. For more information about any of the articles included in this publication, contact Kathy Lehr or Bobbi Padgett at **732-7597**.